

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1991 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I urge all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6341 of September 27, 1991

National Forest Products Week, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Ever since this country's earliest inhabitants hunted game and gathered food in their deep shade, America's forests have provided man with vital sustenance, as well as wood for fuel and shelter. During National Forest Products Week, we reflect on the continuing importance of our Nation's forests and remind ourselves of the need to manage them with care.

From our celebrated national forests to our prized State parks, from our vast industrial timberlands to the small, privately owned woodlots of rural America, our country's forests provide a wealth of benefits. Various species of plants and animals thrive on these rich tracts of land. Individuals and families find in them a wonderful setting for camping and other recreational activities. Yet our forests provide more than habitat for wildlife and beauty for the eye. Wood and wood products are used to make a multitude of products, from the floors beneath our feet to the roofs over our heads. All of our paper products come from wood—everything from the newspapers that help us stay informed to the stationery that helps us stay in touch with family, friends, and co-workers.

While today's antiques remind us that furniture made from wood can last for generations, scientists are demonstrating how wood products and derivatives can shape the look of tomorrow.

The development and use of forest products not only affect our personal comfort and well-being on a daily basis but also contribute substantially to our Nation's economy. According to the Department of the Interior, the forest industry employs nearly 1.6 million men and women, who together earn almost \$43.6 billion in annual wages.

Given their contributions to our economy and to the livelihood of countless individuals and families, we must remember that our Nation's magnificent forests are, in many ways, precious and fragile. Trees can be destroyed needlessly by disease, by forest fires and other natural disasters, and by human carelessness. If we are to continue to meet a variety of consumer needs, our forests must be protected and renewed.

During the past 100 years, we have moved toward more efficient and responsible management of our forest resources. Indeed, through various methods (such as multiple-use and sustained yield management), we are helping nature to replenish our forests. State and local governments, private and voluntary organizations, and concerned individuals are promoting and participating in efforts to conserve and recycle paper products. Millions of people are also taking part in the America the Beautiful Initiative, helping to plant and maintain nearly 1 billion trees per year across the country, in both urban and rural areas. This month, let us acknowledge the importance of these efforts and renew our commitment to them.

In recognition of the value of our forests, the Congress, by Public Law 86-753 (36 U.S.C. 163), designated the week beginning on the third Sunday in October of each year as "National Forest Products Week" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning October 20, 1991, as National Forest Products Week and encourage all Americans to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6342 of September 27, 1991

Leif Erikson Day, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Each October, Americans of all ages join in commemorating the voyages of Leif Erikson, the daring son of Iceland and grandson of Norway who explored the North American coast nearly a millennium ago, and, in so doing, charted a course for generations of Europeans to follow. However, on this occasion, we celebrate more than the remarkable journeys of Leif Erikson and his fellow Norse adventurers. We also celebrate the enduring ties of friendship that exist between the people of the United States and our friends in northern Europe.

Leif Erikson was part of a long line of Norse explorers who braved the vast waters of the Atlantic for the sake of their people's future. His father, Eric the Red, had led the first group of Europeans to colonize Greenland. According to the Icelandic Saga of Eric, young "Leif the Lucky" returned to Norway in the year 1000, and there became a convert to Christianity. When he was later commissioned by King Olaf I to carry the faith back to Greenland, the young navigator once again took to the high seas. Thus, over the course of several generations, Leif Erikson and his fellow Norsemen ventured from their ancestral homeland